

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 XMB-02 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 NIC-01

DODE-00 /088 W

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P 172100Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9627

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 0235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, YO, NATO

SUBJ: ECONADS: REPORT ON RECENT TRENDS IN THE YUGOSLAV ECONOMY

REF: A. USNATO 62

B. USNATO 118

C. BELGRADE 193

D. USNATO 2628

E. USNATO 2708

1. MISSION WELCOMES EMBASSY BELGRADE'S THOROUGH, PERCEPTIVE, AND USEFUL COMMENTARY ON SUMMARY OF DRAFT REPORT PREPARED BY NATO IS ON RECENT TRENDS IN YUGOSALV ECONOMY. USNATO'S INTENT IN SOLICITING EMBASSY'S VIEWS WAS PRECISELY TO ELICIT SUCH EXCELLENT INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS WHICH IS OTHERWISE UNAVAILABLE SINCE MISSION IS RARELY ADDRESSEE ON REPORTING FROM BELGRADE. MISSION WISHES THAT IS DRAFT COULD HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE EARLIER TO ALLOW EMBASSY BELGRADE SUFFICIENT TIME TO REVIEW ENTIRE REPORT.

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2. AS TO GENERAL COMMENTS IN CONCLUDING PARAGRAPHS OF BELGRADE 0193, MISSION BELIEVES THAT U.S., CANADA AND OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES HAVE DEEP CONCERN WITH DEVELOPMENTS IN YUGOSLAVIA; AND THAT THEY AND WE WISH TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND DISCUSS ECONOMIC AS WELL AS POLITICAL ASPECTS. IMF, OECD, IBRD, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS DO

PREPARE EXCELLENT ECONOMIC STUDIES ON YUGOSLAVIA; HOWEVER, SUCH REPORTS LACK THE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WHICH NATO MEMBERS SHARE WITH EACH OTHER; AND IN NO OTHER MULTINATIONAL FORUM CAN LIKE-MINDED NATIONS BOUND TOGETHER BY A COLLECTIVE SECURITY COMMITMENT JOINTLY EXAMINE ALL REPEAT ALL ASPECTS OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN YUGOSLAVIA.

3. IN JUNE 1974 ALLIED HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AGREED THAT NATO SHOULD PAY INCREASING ATTENTION TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS OUTSIDE THE NATO TREATY AREA. AT DECEMBER 1974 MEETING OF NATO FONMINS THE SECRETARY OF STATE TOOK THE LEAD IN ENCOURAGING MORE CONSULTATION WITHIN NATO ON THOSE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS BEYOND REPEAT BEYOND THE TREATY AREA WHICH ARE OF DIRECT CONCERN TO THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE AND TO INDIVIDUAL ALLIED GOVERNMENTS. BECAUSE OF ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION, YUGOSLAVIA CLEARLY FALLS WITHIN THIS FRAME OF REFERENCE.

4. AS EMBASSY BELGRADE IS AWARE, NATO CONSULTS PERIODICALLY ON THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN YUGOSLAVIA, CONCENTRATING ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS (REFS D AND E). MISSION'S UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT WASHINGTON POLICY IS THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS AMONG ALLIES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED; AND THAT THE PRODUCE OF NATO STUDIES, WHICH SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE COUNCIL, SHOULD BE IMPROVED BY THE TIMELY AND COMPREHENSIVE INPUT OF INFORMATION AND ANALYSES BY ALL ALLIANCE MEMBERS, PARTICULARLY THE U.S.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) DEPARTMENT'S CONFIRMATION THAT U.S. CONTINUES TO ENCOURAGE NATO CONSULTATIONS ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS BEYOND THE TREATY AREA, INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY YUGOSLAVIA. (B) WASHINGTON VIEWS ON DRAFT REPORT (AC/127-WP/413) AND ON EMBASSY BELGRADE'S HELPFUL COMMENTS REGARDING SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.BRUCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JAN 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO00235
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750188/abbrzhqq.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 62 B. USNATO 118 C. BELGRADE 193 D. USNATO 2628 E. USNATO 2708
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECONADS: REPORT ON RECENT TRENDS IN THE YUGOSLAV ECONOMY
TAGS: ECON, YO, NATO
To: STATE
BELGRADE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006